

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING

MERIC'S THANKSGIVING
HOLIDAY FUN FACTS



The first Thanksgiving was celebrated in 1621, setting a tradition for gathering with friends and family, giving thanks, and of course, eating! Did you know that Missouri ranks fifth in turkey production in the United States with an estimated 19 million turkeys produced? This is just one of the facts MERIC has put together for you to gobble up to celebrate this holiday.

TURKEY FACTS

12

The number of poultry processing businesses in Missouri 2nd Quarter 2020.

7,330

The average employment in Missouri in the poultry processing industry.

\$749

The average weekly wage for poultry processing employees.

Mexico

Missouri exported \$2.9 million in turkey and turkey products to Mexico, followed by Canada (\$2.4 million), Korea (\$158K), Dominican Republic (\$88K) and Bermuda (\$74K) through the third quarter 2020.

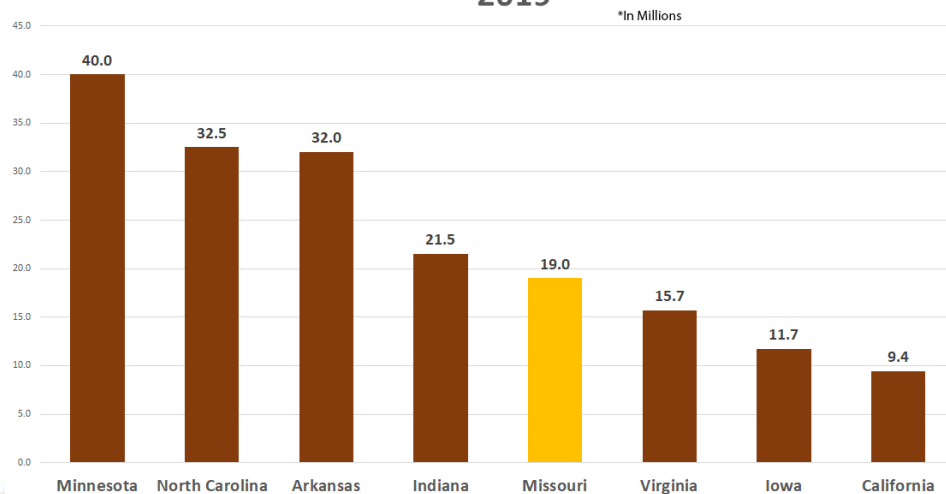
5th

Missouri ranks 5th in the nation in the number of turkeys produced in 2019.

19 Million

The number of turkeys Missouri produced in 2019.

**Number of Turkeys Raised
2019**



TRIMMING FACTS

1,257

The number of acres in Missouri used in pumpkin production. Illinois leads pumpkin production in the nation with 17,399 acres in pumpkin production, followed by Pennsylvania (6,871), Indiana (5,330), Michigan (5,123), California (4,386) and Texas (3,742).

344

The number of farms in Missouri harvesting pumpkins in 2017. St. Charles County had the most farms with 20 followed by Boone (18), Webster (16), Cass (15), Franklin (15) and Audrain (13).

126

The number of farms producing sweet potatoes Missouri in 2017.

Wisconsin

The number one state in cranberry production in 2017 with 9.5 million barrels grown valued at over \$292.3 million. Approximately 95 percent of cranberries are processed for juice or fruit juice blends. Missouri does not produce any cranberries because the tart fruit prefers much cooler climates.

TRAVEL FACTS

50 million

The number of Americans who plan to travel for the Thanksgiving holiday according to AAA, down from 55 million in 2019. Those who plan to travel have closer destinations than the previous year.

2.4 Million

The number of Americans who will fly to their destination this Thanksgiving holiday weekend, down 50 percent from 2019.

353,000

The number who plan to travel by other modes, including buses, trains and cruises.

SOURCES

<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/sis/resources/thanksgiving-day-ff.pdf>

<https://www.bls.gov/cew/> - 2ndQ2020

<http://www.wisertrade.org/home/portal/index.jsp>

<https://www.travelpulse.com>

<https://newsroom.aaa.com/>

2017 Census of Agriculture